CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

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NOTE VERBALE DATED 1 JUNE 1995 FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF TURKEY ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARIAT OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT TRANSMITTING A STATEMENT MADE BY THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF TURKEY ON 17 MAY 1995 CONCERNING THE CHINESE NUCLEAR EXPLOSION ON 15 MAY 1995

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Turkey to the United Nations Office at Geneva and the other international organizations in Switzerland presents its compliments to the secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament and has the honour to communicate to it hereunder a translation of the statement made by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Turkey on 17 May 1995 concerning the explosion of a nuclear device on the initiative of the People's Republic of China on 15 May 1995.

"The explosion of a nuclear device by the People's Republic of China, which took place immediately after the decision on the indefinite extension of the non-proliferation Treaty, is, leaving aside the doubts raised as to the proper application of the Treaty, a disappointment in the light of the work that has been carried out for the conclusion of a treaty which will completely prohibit nuclear tests.

"Turkey, which has already expressed its opinion in the past on the occasion of previous nuclear tests, wishes to express its profound concern once again at the harmful effects that the continuation of these tests may have for the environment, public health and safety, which are of fundamental importance for the future of mankind."

The Permanent Mission of Turkey would be grateful if the secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament would be kind enough to distribute this text as an official document of the Conference.